

Illinois Department of Natural Resources

EPA Region 5 Records Ctr.



282608




2005 Fishing Information

One Natural Resources Way
Springfield, IL 62702

E-mail FISH questions to:
lmick@dnrmal.state.il.us

Free IL Fishing Information digest?
E-mail clearing@dnrmal.state.il.us

-  Download the entire document (pdf, 910 Kb)
- Download a .zip version (self-extracting file) (1100 Kb)
- Table of Contents (pdf, 38 KB) - for **reference** only, pages are not linked here



*Required to view/print documents on the web

[IDNR's Fisheries Home Page]



TABLE OF CONTENTS

2005 ILLINOIS FISHING INFORMATION

Effective April 1, 2005 to March 31, 2006

SPORT FISHING LICENSE INFORMATION	3	Spearing/Bow and Arrow Fishing	6
SUMMARY OF FISHING REGULATIONS		Sport Fish	6
Administrative Rules	3	Sport Fishing License	6
Aquatic Life	3	Stocking	6
Bait Fishing	3	Tagged Fish	6
Bluegill as Bait	3	Tournaments/Tournament Fishing Permit	7
Cleaning Fish on Waters	3	Trolling	7
Commercial Fish	3	Trot and Trolley Lines	7
Commercial Licenses	3	Turtles	7
Crayfish	4	Unattended Devices	7
Daily Creel and Size Limits	4	STATEWIDE SPORT FISHING REGULATIONS	8
Daily Fee Fishing Area	4	SITE SPECIFIC SPORT FISHING REGULATIONS	8
Dip Nets	4	CATCHABLE TROUT PROGRAM	35
Endangered and Threatened Species	5	MAJOR ILLINOIS SPORT FISH	36
Fish Preserves	5	ILLINOIS AND NORTH AMERICAN RECORD FISH	38
Fishing Guides	5	ILLINOIS SPORT FISHING AWARDS	39
Free Fishing Days	5	FISH CONSUMPTION ADVISORIES	40
Free Group Fishing Permits	5	AQUATIC NUISANCE SPECIES	44
Frogs	5	SNAKEHEADS	45
Ice Fishing	5	SPORT FISH RESTORATION	46
Illegal Devices	5	ILLINOIS URBAN FISHING PROGRAM	46
Minnows	5	FISHING PROSPECTS	47
Mussels	5	ANGLER CREEL SURVEYS	57
Pollution	5	PLACES TO FISH IN ILLINOIS	58
Property	5	I FISH ILLINOIS WEBSITE	61
Sale of Aquatic Life	5	BOUNDARY RIVERS	61
Salmon Stamp	6	NEW POINT SYSTEM FOR	
Seasons	6	REVOCATIONS/SUSPENSIONS	62
Smelt	6	ILLINOIS DNR OFFICES & PHONE NUMBERS	64
Snagging	6		

NOTE TO ANGLERS



Illinois anglers have long been guardians of our state's aquatic resources. Maintaining the quality of our fisheries depends on all of us.

To insure good fishing will be available for years to come, anglers must team with law enforcement officers and fishery

biologists to conserve and protect the great fishing in Illinois.

Because of your efforts, Illinois can boast about the quality of its fishing now and for years to come.

Thanks for your continued cooperation and support.

Rod Blagojevich
Governor

ABOUT THE BOOKLET



The 2005 ILLINOIS FISHING INFORMATION booklet represents an up-to-date summary of fishing regulations in Illinois written in non-legal, informative terms to explain the intent of the FISH AND AQUATIC LIFE CODE (Chapter 515, Illinois Compiled Statutes). Also, the booklet presents SITE SPECIFIC REGULATIONS organized by water area.

In emergency situations, SITE SPECIFIC REGULATIONS for a particular water area may change in accordance with provisions of the Emergency Rule. Any changes to SITE SPECIFIC REGULATIONS for a particular water area are posted at the site, DNR and I FISH ILLINOIS websites and published in the Department's Outdoor Illinois magazine.

In addition, copies of the emergency changes or answers to any questions, may be obtained by contacting any Fisheries Program, District or Regional Offices or by writing the Department of Natural Resources, Division of Fisheries, One Natural Resources Way, Springfield, IL 62702-1271.

Joel Brunsvold
Director

Equal opportunity to participate in programs of the Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) and those funded by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and other agencies is available to all individuals regardless of race, sex, national origin, disability, age, religion or other non-merit factors. If you believe you have been discriminated against, contact the funding source's civil rights office and/or the Equal Employment Opportunity Officer, IDNR, One Natural Resources Way, Springfield, Ill. 62702-1271; 217/785-0067; TTY 217/782-9175.

This information may be provided in an alternative format if required. Contact the DNR Clearinghouse at 217/782-7498 for assistance.



Printed on Recycled Paper

Printed by authority of the State of Illinois
PRT3354322 - 500M - 1-05

STATE SPECIFIC SPORTFISHING REGULATIONS

Statewide Sportfishing Regulations are enforced in addition to each area's Site Specific Regulations

WATER AREA	FISH SPECIES OR GROUP	SITE SPECIFIC REGULATIONS	WATER AREA	FISH SPECIES OR GROUP	SITE SPECIFIC REGULATIONS
Harrisburg New City Reservoir , City of Harrisburg (Saline County)			Herrin Lake #2 , City of Herrin (Williamson County)		
	All Fish	2 Pole and Line Fishing Only (1)		All Fish	2 Pole and Line Fishing Only (1)
	Channel Catfish	6 Fish Daily Creel Limit		Channel Catfish	6 Fish Daily Creel Limit
	Striped, White, or Hybrid			Large or Smallmouth Bass	15" Minimum Length Limit
	Striped Bass	17" Minimum Length Limit		Large or Smallmouth Bass (14)	3 Fish Daily Creel Limit
	Striped, White, or Hybrid				
	Striped Bass (16)	3 Fish Daily Creel Limit			
Heidecke Lake , Heidecke Lake State Fish and Wildlife Area (Grundy County)			Hidden Springs State Forest Ponds , Hidden Springs State Forest (Shelby County)		
Recreational Use Restrictions . . . Heidecke Lake shall be closed to all fishing and boat traffic except for legal waterfowl hunters from 10 days prior to duck season through the day before duck season and is closed to all fishing during waterfowl season commencing with regular duck season through the close of the Canada goose and regular duck season (44); All live bait in excess of 8" must be rigged with a quick set rig (45)				All Fish	2 Pole and Line Fishing Only (1)
	All Fish	2 Pole and Line Fishing Only (1)		Bluegill or Redear Sunfish (14)	10 Fish Daily Creel Limit
	Channel Catfish	6 Fish Daily Creel Limit		Channel Catfish	6 Fish Daily Creel Limit
	Large or Smallmouth Bass	15" Minimum Length Limit		Large or Smallmouth Bass	15" Minimum Length Limit
	Large or Smallmouth Bass (14)	3 Fish Daily Creel Limit		Large or Smallmouth Bass (14)	1 Fish Daily Creel Limit
	Striped, White, or Hybrid				
	Striped Bass (16)	10 Creel/3 Fish 17" or Longer Daily (17)	Highland Old City Lake , City of Highland (Madison County)		
	Walleye, Sauger, or Hybrid			All Fish	2 Pole and Line Fishing Only (1)
	Walleye	16" Minimum Length Limit		Channel Catfish	6 Fish Daily Creel Limit
	Walleye, Sauger, or Hybrid			Trout	Fall Closed Season (10)
	Walleye (14)	3 Fish Daily Creel Limit			
Helmbold Slough (Calhoun County)			Hillsboro Old City Lake , City of Hillsboro (Montgomery County)		
Recreational Use Restrictions . . . Waterfowl Refuge or Hunting Area (19)				All Fish	2 Pole and Line Fishing Only (1)
Hennepin Canal-Mainline & Feeder , Hennepin Canal Parkway S.P. (Multiple Counties)				Channel Catfish	6 Fish Daily Creel Limit
	All Fish	2 Pole and Line Fishing Only (1) (13)		Bluegill or Redear Sunfish (14)	10 Fish Daily Creel Limit
	Large or Smallmouth Bass	14" Minimum Length Limit		Large or Smallmouth Bass	18" Minimum Length Limit
	Trout	Fall Closed Season (10)		Large or Smallmouth Bass (14)	1 Fish Daily Creel Limit
	Trout	Spring Closed Season (11)			
Hennepin-Hopper Lakes , The Wetlands Initiative (Putnam County)			Homer Guthrie Pond - Eldon Hazlet State Park , State of Illinois (Clinton County)		
Recreational Use Restrictions . . . All live bait in excess of 8" must be rigged with a quick set rig (45)				All Fish	2 Pole and Line Fishing Only (1)
	All Fish	2 Pole and Line Fishing Only (1)		Channel Catfish	6 Fish Daily Creel Limit
	Black, White, or Hybrid			Bluegill or Redear Sunfish (14)	10 Fish Daily Creel Limit
	Crappie	9" Minimum Length Limit		Channel Catfish	6 Fish Daily Creel Limit
	Black, White or Hybrid			Large or Smallmouth Bass	14" Minimum Length Limit
	Crappie (15)	25 Fish Daily Creel Limit			
	Channel Catfish	6 Fish Daily Creel Limit	Homer Lake , Champaign County Forest Preserve District (Champaign County)		
	Large or Smallmouth Bass	15" Minimum Length Limit		All Fish	2 Pole and Line Fishing Only (1)
	Large or Smallmouth Bass (14)	3 Fish Daily Creel Limit		Bluegill or Redear Sunfish	8" Minimum Length Limit
	Pure Muskellunge	42" Minimum Length Limit		Bluegill or Redear Sunfish (14)	10 Fish Daily Creel Limit
	Walleye, Sauger or Hybrid			Channel Catfish	6 Fish Daily Creel Limit
	Walleye	18" Minimum Length Limit		Large or Smallmouth Bass	14" Minimum Length Limit
	Walleye, Sauger or Hybrid				
	Walleye (14)	3 Fish Daily Creel Limit	Hormel Pond , Donnelley State Fish and Wildlife Area (Bureau County)		
Herrin Lake #1 , City of Herrin (Williamson County)				All Fish	2 Pole and Line Fishing Only (1) (5)
	All Fish	2 Pole and Line Fishing Only (1)		Channel Catfish	6 Fish Daily Creel Limit
	Channel Catfish	6 Fish Daily Creel Limit		Large or Smallmouth Bass	14" Minimum Length Limit
	Large or Smallmouth Bass	15" Minimum Length Limit			
	Large or Smallmouth Bass (14)	3 Fish Daily Creel Limit	Horseshoe Lake-Alexander Co. , Horseshoe Lake Cons. Area (Alexander County)		
				Recreational Use Restriction	Only trolling motors will be allowed in the refuge from October 15 through March 1.
				All Fish	2 Pole and Line Fishing Only (1) (5)
				Channel Catfish	6 Fish Daily Creel Limit
				Large or Smallmouth Bass	14" Minimum Length Limit
			Horseshoe Lake-Madison Co. , Horseshoe Lake State Park (Madison County)		
				Recreational Use Restrictions	Waterfowl Refuge or Hunting Area (33)
				All Fish	2 Pole and Line Fishing Only (1)(28)(36)
				Large or Smallmouth Bass	15" Minimum Length Limit
				Large or Smallmouth Bass (14)	3 Fish Daily Creel Limit
				White, Black, or Hybrid	
				Crappie (15)	25 Fish Daily Creel Limit

NOTE: EXPLANATIONS FOR NUMBERS CONTAINED IN PARENTHESIS ARE FOUND ON PAGES 9 AND 10